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CHINESE ART EXHIBIT IS MARCH 31-APRIL 15 AT UM

MISSOULA--

An art exhibit entitled "The Great House," featuring Chinese porcelains, tapestries, models of Chinese ships, paintings and other items, will be open to the public daily from Wednesday, March 31, through April 15, in the Gallery of Visual Arts in Turner Hall at the University of Montana in Missoula.

Included in the exhibit are such items as an eight-inch-tall ceramic temple dog dating to the T'ang Dynasty, which ruled China between the sixth and ninth centuries A.D., and a scroll designed with sketches of 100 horses, dating to the 13th century A.D., the time of Marco Polo. A temple cloth loaned to the University by a Chinese family from Butte also will be displayed.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday during "The Great House" exhibit. In recognition of the exhibit, there will be a public reception in the Gallery of Visual Arts at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 30.

Items in the display, including household furnishings, will be arranged in the gallery as they might have been set up in a 19th century Chinese Manchu house.

Translations of Chinese inscriptions and watermarks on various artworks in the exhibit were done by Dr. John B. Wang, assistant professor of foreign languages at UM, and Dr. Peter P.S. Chin, a research associate in chemistry at the University. Dr. Frank Bessac, professor of anthropology at UM, and David Burnham of Missoula served as exhibit consultants.

Susanne Bessac, a faculty affiliate in the UM Department of Anthropology, and Henry G. Hunt, director of the UM Gallery of Visual Arts, assisted in organizing the display. University students conducted research on the artworks.

Artworks in the exhibit were obtained from the University's permanent collection and from private collections belonging to residents of Butte, Missoula and Polson.

UM students assisting in the display include:

Corbin V. Skinner, Billings; Jerry C. Downey, Corvallis; James W. Schermele, Great Falls; Marcia Louise D'Orazi, Ellen Wigley Hokanson and Gianna J. Ranuzzi, Missoula; Nancy Roddy, Greenwich, Conn.; Marsha Nerine French, Norfolk, Neb.; Mary Brooks Larson, Essex Falls, N.J.; Janet Gail Medina, Montclair, N.J.; Susan Star Wylie, Manhasset, N.Y., and Christopher L. McKinney, Cloquet, Minn. Eloise Thompson, Missoula, also assisted.

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